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SOCIAL MEDIA BEHIND THE FIREWALL



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THE PICATINNY VOICE



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Photo by Todd Mozes

A color guard retires the colors during a soggy day with sporadic rainfall in which the new Building 8 was named the Col. John M. McHugh Armaments Integration Facility in a Sept. 6 dedication ceremony.

New building a tribute to local fallen officer

BY TIMOTHY RIDER

Picatinny Public Affairs

Picatinny's new Building 8 was named the Col. John M. McHugh Armaments Integration Facility in a dedication ceremony Sept. 6 in honor of a local hero who was one of the highest ranking officers to die in Afghanistan since the U.S. entered conflict there in 2001.

McHugh was a 1982 graduate of West Caldwell High school and graduated from the U.S. Military Academy in 1986. He became an Army aviator and helicopter pilot.

McHugh was one of five U.S. Soldiers killed along with a Canadian officer and a dozen Afghan civilians in a May 16, 2010 suicide bomb attack on a NATO convoy in Kabul.

The dedication ceremony was held to "provide a fitting tribute to a Soldier who gave his life for his country," remarked Installation Commanding General, Brig. Gen. Jonathan A. Maddux.

By placing a plaque with his name above the entrance to the building, "John's memory will live on," Maddux said.

Attending the ceremony were Col. McHugh's mother, Mary, and father, James.

Speaking to the attendees, Col. McHugh's brother, James, said that his brother would have used a term familiar to those who knew him to describe having a building named in his honor: "Cool!"

"McHugh lived by the West Point class motto, 'Courage Never Quits.' He was one of the kindest people God ever created."

Also speaking at the ceremony was McHugh's West Point classmate, Col. John Boulé II, district engineer and commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District, which had responsibilities for the building's construction.

"McHugh lived by the West Point class motto, 'Courage Never Quits,'" said Boulé. "He was one of the kindest people God ever created. I'm proud to have known you. I miss you brother."

After the ceremony Boulé described his classmate as "a kind and gentle warrior, a great athlete and a friend to everyone he met. Also, he was a real family guy," he said of Connie McHugh's husband and father of five.

Engineers who work in the building will be supporting enhancements to the Common Remotely Operated Weapon Station and developing future remote weapons tech-

See NEW FACILITY, Page 3

ARDEC solves Marine armor dilemma, wins patent award

BY TIMOTHY RIDER

Picatinny Public Affairs

The U.S. Army Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center and seven ARDEC engineers will receive 2011 Thomas Alva Edison Patent Awards for the invention, "Blast Shield for Armored Vehicle."

ARDEC engineers Thomas Kiel, Allen Brokaw, Frank Petrosillo, Katrina Tubayan, Matthew Hummers, Ryan Hooke, and Kirk Deligiannis will receive a patent award in the defense category for the award, which will be presented Nov. 10 by the R&D Council of New Jersey at the Liberty Science Center in Jersey City, N.J.

"The team understands the manufacturing science of armor," said Kiel. It is composed of experts in geometric model-

"Our team was able to dial in the right balance that provided very good protection while enabling a high degree of visibility through transparent armor."

ing, material and manufacturing analysis and fabrication.

The Picatinny Blast Shield is an armored kit that protects the vehicle commander and 25mm gunner in the Marine Corps' Light Armored Vehicle (LAV). The kit is positioned on the turret of the vehicle to protect the Marines who operate outside of the hatches.

Development for the shield began in 2005, when ARDEC invited personnel from the Marine Project Manager for

Light Armored Vehicles to Picatinny Arsenal for a technology review of its lethality and force-protection portfolio.

Within four months, the team delivered initial kits to Marines in Iraq, said Kiel.

The team presented information on the new titanium Stryker Cupola Shield they had developed for the Army's Stryker Fire Support Vehicle and Stryker Reconnaissance Vehicle. Strykers and LAVs are wheeled vehicles that share many physical

attributes.

The team also demonstrated a simple and rapid approach to developing custom shield designs, said Kiel.

"We were challenged to develop a solution that would protect the Marines against the emerging threats of rifle fire and improvised explosive devices," said Kiel.

Like the Picatinny-developed Stryker Cupola Shield and the Objective Gunner Protection Kit, the Marine's demanded a solution that offers a delicate balance of sufficient protection, coverage, visibility and the ability to engage targets effectively.

"Typically there is a trade-off between protection and the ability to maneuver

See CUSTOM, Page 2

Custom solution achieved for Marine Corp problem

Continued from Page 1

weapons and designate targets effectively," said Kiel.

"Our team was able to dial in the right balance that provided very good protection while enabling a high degree of visibility through transparent armor."

The Marines also had unique and challenging requirements that required custom solutions.

One gunnery sergeant described the Marine's need for a "plug and play" solution – meaning they needed a kit that was easy to install and tear off at the unit level without the need for special tools.

"The project manager did not allow any modifications to the vehicle such as drilling or welding," said Kiel, and it was not obvious where they would be able to mount the protective armor.

After a brainstorming meeting, team members realized they could mount the turret "eyes" atop the vehicle used for lifting the turret during maintenance.

Shortly after the presentation at Picatinny, The team went to Camp LeJune, N.C., to meet Marines from a LAV reconnaissance battalion that had recently returned from Iraq.

CRITICAL ASSESSMENTS MADE

There, the team and the Marines discussed the critical areas to protect and used pieces of cardboard to envision the protective regions and the effects on visibility and weapon maneuverability.

Prototypes and initial production were performed at the at Picatinny's Prototype Integration Facility, where highly skilled machinists, welders and technicians developed a robotic welding operation for the shield.

The production facility also offers such modern production techniques as laser cutting and automated forming.

The skill of the PIF workforce and the modern



Using pieces of cardboard, ARDEC engineer Matthew Hummers considers the the best configuration for armor protection on a Marine Light Armored Vehicle.

techniques contributed to the rapid delivery needed to meet the urgent requirement and also helped make the systems more affordable.

The solution that the team eventually delivered to the Marines was arrived at after "extensive live fire testing," said Kiel

It included ballistic-grade materials including armor steel and transparent armor that leveraged common materials from the Objective Gunner Protection Kit.

The R&D Council established the Thomas Alva Edison Patent Award to ensure that the "significant and diverse research and development work done by scientists and their respective New Jersey organizations receives the superstar recognition it deserves in this state," says Ian Shankland, chairman of the reseach council.

Awards will be presented to 40 people from 12 New Jersey companies, plus ARDEC personnel.

The 32nd presentation of the Edison awards will be at the home of the nation's largest IMAX Theater, where a short film will honor the work of the winners.

The ARDEC team has been interviewed for the film. The patent is U.S. Patent 7,942,092.

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Note to Readers

The next issue of The Picatinny Voice
will be Oct. 23

THE PICATINNY VOICE



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All manuscripts, photos or artwork may not be returned without prior coordination. Digital images should be submitted at a resolution of at least 200 pixels per inch.

Due to space limitations, the editor reserves the right to edit submitted articles. Contributions can be sent by e-mail to picaVOICE@conus.army.mil.

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Submissions must be signed or received via e-mail through your own account to be considered for publication, but writer's names may be withheld upon request. Opinions expressed are those of each author and not an official expression of the Department of the Army or the Command.

The PicatinnyVoice reserves the right to select, reject or edit letters and articles to meet space constraints, achieve clarity or for propriety considerations.

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Picatinny Arsenal remembers casualties of 9/11 attacks



A lone American flag in the foreground bears witness to the ceremony at Picatinny Arsenal on Sept. 9 to remember the victims of the 9/11 attacks 10 years ago.

Ten years after the horrific loss of lives that stunned the nation, Picatinny Arsenal joined countless other gatherings across the nation to remember, share, and honor the departed.

Photos by Timothy Rider



Chief Petty Officer Richard Espinosa of the U.S. Navy salutes as the choir sings the National Anthem.



The ceremony attracted attendees from many segments of the Picatinny community.

New facility boasts sophisticated equipment for research

Continued from Page 1

nologies. They will also use the facility to integrate small arms, medium caliber and remote weapons systems onto various ground, air and perhaps sea platforms.

The facility has computer workspace for engineers to design systems and equipment to create prototypes.

The building also houses simulation platforms that allow the engineers to conduct initial shock and vibration tests.

SUPERCOMPUTING POWER

In addition, the structure features a supercomputer with a nearly 360-degree viewing screen that allows engineers, Soldiers or Marines to use the weapon in an immersive, simulated environment so that they can acquire immediate feedback.

"This kind of immediate feedback is proven to be the most effective way to develop systems," said Dr. Gerardo Melendez, director of the Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center (ARDEC).

The McHugh building's bay has space to bring in the largest vehicles in the Army's inventory so that technology can be



The parents of Col. John M. McHugh, James and Mary McHugh, attended the ceremony along with his brother James, seated at right.

integrated into the vehicles.

"The facility brings together the ability to design, build and test, equipment all under one roof," Melendez added.

After preliminary testing, the engineers can take the equipment next door to the

Maj. Marie Rossi Clayton Armament Technology Facility for live fire testing. In combination, the two facilities speed the process of enhancing weapons and providing new capabilities to Soldiers, which makes ARDEC more responsive

to the warfighter's needs, Melendez said.

The Clayton facility was named in honor of the first female officer to fly into combat.

She was killed in a helicopter crash in 1991 during Operation Desert Storm.

The McHugh building cost about \$4.5 million to construct and it will contain about \$3.2 million worth of specialized equipment.

"This facility was completed on time and on budget," said Boulé.

"Everyone involved contributed countless hours to satisfy one common goal—complete success."

Yet with all of its amenities and high technology equipment, the McHugh plaque will serve as a reminder to engineers of the dedicated people in uniform for whom they develop weapons.

"How then can they not be inspired to dedicate themselves completely in support of these warfighters?" Melendez asked during the ceremony.

"How can they learn about Colonel McHugh and not be inspired by the type of people this country produces to defend it?"

Photo by Todd Mozes



Picatinny Arsenal recently won the 33rd Annual Secretary of the Army Award for Energy Efficiency in the Exceptional Performance Group category. From left, Katherine Hammack, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations, Energy and Environment; Richard Havrisko, Director of the Department of Public Works (DPW) at Picatinny Arsenal; Michael Maier, Chief, Operations and Maintenance of DPW at Picatinny, and Maj. Gen. Al Aycock, Deputy Commanding General and Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army Installation Management Command.

Picatinny's Performance Earns 33rd Annual Secretary of the Army Award for Energy Efficiency

Picatinny Public Affairs Office

In recognition of its leadership in energy and water management, Picatinny Arsenal won the 33rd Annual Secretary of the Army Award for Energy Efficiency in the Exceptional Performance Group category. This is the third year in a row that Picatinny has won an Annual Secretary of the Army Award.

The award recognizes Picatinny's overall multi-year performance of energy efficiency and management.

During Fiscal Year 2010, Picatinny Arsenal surpassed the Army's 30 percent energy reduction goal—five years ahead of schedule.

This achievement, attained despite a 26 percent increase in the garrison population, is the result of close teamwork, planning and execution by Picatinny Arsenal,

Chevron Energy Services, and SEA Associates over a period of about seven years, said Nicholas Stecky, Picatinny's resource efficiency manager, a contractor position.

During this period, Picatinny completed many projects at an overall cost of about \$61 million.

Highlights included a boiler decentralization project, HVAC upgrades, establishment of an energy management control system; boiler heat recovery projects, boiler fuel switching; and replacement of potable water in process applications with non-potable water.

Stecky said the outstanding performance was achieved through a long term commitment by the Picatinny Arsenal Energy Team, which was determined to make Picatinny Arsenal one of the Army's leaders in

energy and water management.

Picatinny was presented with the award at a ceremony held during the Army Energy Managers Training Workshop in Cincinnati Ohio. Eight installations were honored with plaques.

Awards were presented by Katherine Hammack, the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations, Energy & Environment. Picatinny personnel named in the award were Garrison Commander Lt. Col. Herb Koehler; John Costea, deputy to the garrison commander; Richard Havrisko, director of public works; Michael Maier, public works chief of operations and maintenance; Thomas Struble, contract management support officer, along with contractors Nick Stecky of SEA Associates and Steven Brod of Chevron Energy Services.

Looking Back ... At Picatinny



BY PATRICK J. OWENS

ARDEC Historian

One sign that September has arrived is the renewed presence of school buses on Arsenal roadways. Once upon a time, transportation to and from school was not a necessity for installation children because Picatinny had its own school.

Beginning in 1913 and running through World War I, Rockaway Township ran an elementary school in what is now Building 115.

The school occupied the first floor with one room serving as the classroom while a second doubled as a play and discipline room.

This 1913 photo shows 21 children, evidently real beginners. A doctor examining them on the first day found that almost none could read the letters on the eye chart.

The teacher, Maud Catherine Lyon, had to explain she had not begun to teach the alphabet. Mrs. Lyon is the adult in the photo.

This photo and most of the information in this piece came from the family of Alice Rowe McLennehan. Young Alice is third from the left in the first row.

Mrs. Horney, wife of the arsenal commander, took the photo. Ester Horney is next to Miss Lyon and Odus Horney, the commander's namesake, is second from the right in the last row.

NARFE sponsors Oktoberfest outing

The National Active and Retired Federal Employees, Chapter 424, is sponsoring a bus trip to Oktoberfest at the Platzl Brauhaus in Pomona, N.Y., on Oct. 11.

The bus starts loading at 8:30 a.m. from Lot 36 at Rockaway Townsquare Mall and departs at 9 a.m.

Breakfast includes coffee, tea, scones, and donuts on arrival. Lunch will be a choice of roasted half chicken, roast pork, or sauerbraten, potato and vegetable. Also served family style will be

red cabbage, bratwurst, spare ribs, sauerkraut, applesauce and fresh apples.

The cost per person is \$60. Non-members are welcome to enjoy the fun.

Make checks payable to William J. Ryan Chapter 424, NARFE

Mail checks to either Valerie Morgan, 45 Yacht Club Drive, Lake Hopatcong, NJ 07849-1313 (973- 663-2401); or to Miriam Gonsiska, 21 Tinc Road, Flanders, NJ 07836 (973-584-4102).



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The Picatinny Public Affairs Office invites you to friend PEO Ammo, ask questions, leave comments and interact via our social media sites at:

<http://www.facebook.com/peo-ammo>

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Photo by Timothy Rider

Col. Noddy Stafford, special assistant to the Military Advisor of the United Nations, briefed ARDEC engineers and leaders on the numerous challenges facing UN peacekeeping efforts.

ARDEC builds ties with UN

BY SARA MORRISON AND NATALIA PETRIANYK

ARDEC International Office

Organized by the ARDEC International Office, Col. Noddy Stafford, special assistant to the Military Advisor of the United Nations, paid a visit to Picatinny Arsenal on Sept. 9.

After attending the 9/11 ceremony earlier in the day and before touring the Rapid Prototyping Facility, Stafford briefed engineers and ARDEC leadership on the materiel needs for UN Peacekeeping Forces.

In his introduction of Stafford, Lu Ting, who heads up the ARDEC International Office, explained that since 1945, changes by the leading powers led to a framework for international order.

In turn, this led to the Army embracing the concept of full-spectrum operations and stability, as published in 2003.

"That was why we, the ARDEC International Office, have paid close attention to the stability operations for the past few years, along with our efforts in support of rapid fielding for coalition forces," Ting said.

Thus, the International Office has been looking for opportunities to link to and support stability operations, including peacekeeping operations.

During his presentation, Stafford noted that the United Nations currently has 15 peacekeeping missions worldwide, on a budget of \$7.83 billion a year.

The missions include about 85,000 deployed military personnel, 14,000 police and 26,000 civilians for a total of about 125,000 people.

These missions have varied goals and include supporting a ceasefire agreement, supporting a peace process, extending security and stability gains for longer-term peace, and providing security and protection.

Stafford said that with so many people worldwide, such a limited budget, and such huge undertakings, peacekeeping efforts face constant challenges.

The challenges include difficult environments and climates, such as sand storms, limited supply routes, poor road conditions, lack of drinking water and high temperatures.

Other obstacles are weapon proliferation, sectarian violence, non-state actors, along with non-conventional threats such as improvised explosive devices and resistance from certain host countries.

Stafford's briefing and discussions afterward contributed to the exchange of ideas of how various technologies being developed at ARDEC could reduce costs and increase efficiency for the peacekeeping efforts.

Specific ideas involved improving security with remote surveillance and supporting displaced persons and refugees with better technology for cooking and water purification.

The International Office expects that Stafford's visit is just the beginning of ARDEC's relationship with the United Nations in its peacekeeping efforts.

With start of school, driver caution promotes safety

The beginning of the school year means more busses on the highway and school children waiting to be picked up and dropped off at neighborhood locations.

- During the morning commute, drivers may be preoccupied with thoughts of work and arriving at the workplace on time.

- However, patience and caution are needed. Here are some tips for drivers:

- Slow down and be especially alert in the residential neighborhoods and school zones

- Take extra time to look for children at intersections, on medians and on curbs

- Enter and exit driveways and alleys slowly

and carefully

- Watch for children on and near the roads in the morning and after school hours

- Reduce any distractions inside your car so you can concentrate on the road and your surroundings. Put down your phone and don't talk or text while driving

- Pay special attention to buses displaying flashing red lights when picking up and dropping off children. New Jersey law states that vehicles *must* come to a complete stop on both sides of the street if there is no physical divider or barriers.

- Drivers will *not* pass the bus until all lights have ceased flashing

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Security upgrades to 'Escape Trail' add protection

BY ERIC KOWAL
Picatinny Public Affairs

With minimal cost to Picatinny Arsenal by reusing equipment from Redstone Arsenal, Ala., security upgrades to one of the access-control points here were completed earlier this month to provide greater security for the workforce and military families.

The gate known primarily as "the Escape Trail" will be re-opened to incoming traffic only. It took two years from start to finish to completely refurbish the gate. Yet the value of the increased security cannot be measured.

"The gate you see today is standard practice across the Army," Lt. Col. Herb Koehler, Picatinny's Garrison Commander, said during a low-key ceremony marking the official opening of the gate.

Koehler said he was happy to see the project completed.



The Escape Trail before security upgrades that started nearly two years ago.

"This is the first major project that I oversaw during my tenure here from start to finish," he said. Koehler assumed command of the garrison in 2010.

A climate-control guard booth and large canopy protect the guards from harsh weather and severe sun glare, which was often hazardous to drivers.

Guards are now protected from vehicles since they can now stand several feet off the ground on a raised traffic island.

Persons familiar with the access control point before the upgrades may remember that the entrance was rather narrow. The road has been reconfigured to allow for wider vehicles. In addition, a larger electronically controlled gate has been installed.

While these may seem like standard upgrades, Picatinny Arsenal was one of the last installations to receive these modifications, thus providing a boost to force-protection measures.

"Before the gate even opened it survived an earthquake, hurricane, and a tropical storm," Koehler joked.



The new access point with considerable upgrades. From left, William Doyle, Antirrorism Officer; Command Sgt. Major Scott Koroll; Garrison Commander Lt. Col. Herb Koehler; Craig Cugini, Director of the Directorate of Plans, Training and Mobilization and Security; along with some members of the Corps of Engineers stand at the newly remodeled Escape Trail Access Control Point.

The area was hit hard within the last month by each of these natural disasters. Several cracks appeared in some foundations due to the quake and Hurricane Irene caused more than \$600,000 in damage.

Redstone provided the canopy to Picatinny after Redstone was scheduled to receive additional funding for its own needs.

Because of the canopy's size, only a few installations like Picatinny could make use of it.

'Bulldogs' take delivery of first M2A1 machine guns

BY KEVIN DOELL
PM Soldier Weapons

Project Manager Soldier Weapons personnel delivered the first M2A1 .50 Caliber Machine Guns ever fielded to the 1st Armored Division's 3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team 'Bulldogs' the week of 14 August at Fort Bliss, Texas.

The upgraded guns incorporate significant lethality and safety improvements over the classic M2.

Upgrades include a quick change barrel, fixed headspace and timing, and a new flash hider that reduces the weapon's flash signature by 95 percent.

The fielding resulted from years of effort put forth by Army civilians like M2/M2A1 Product Director Laura Battista.

"Soldiers love the M2," said Battista. "We didn't want to change it. We wanted to make it better by making it safer and easier to use."

Battista and her team spent the week with Bulldog Soldiers so they could take possession of the new guns and learn about the M2A1's improved features over the M2, a Soldier favorite for decades.

"The M2A1's fixed headspace and timing enhancement resolves the number one safety issue for Soldiers operating the weapon system," said Maj. Ken Bernier, Assistant Product Manager for Crew Served Weapons.

"The quick change barrel speeds target engagement and improves survivability and safety by

"Soldiers love the M2. We didn't want to change it. We wanted to make it better by making it safer and easier to use."

reducing the time required to change the barrel. The result is that unit M2A1s will have near constant firepower and less downtime."

During the Bulldog fielding event, Bernier also briefed the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition Technology and Logistics Dr. Ashton B. Carter on the M2A1's capabilities.

The Under Secretary was on hand to review the brigade's readiness in advance of its deployment to Afghanistan.

The M2A1 program achieved Full Material Release (FMR) on 3 AUG 2011. FMR is the formal certification that the weapon system is safe, suitable, and supportable when used within stated operational parameters.

The Army's goal is to upgrade over 45,000 M2s in the fleet to the new M2A1 configuration at Anniston Army Depot (ANAD) in Alabama. Project Manager Soldier Weapons will provide ANAD with the Quick Change Barrel Kits needed to convert M2s into M2A1s.

The Army has contracted with General Dynamics Armament and Technical Products to build 9,758 new M2A1s in addition to procuring conversion kits.



Ashton B. Carter, left, Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition Technology and Logistics, receives a briefing on the new M2A1 .50 Caliber Machine Gun by Maj. Ken Bernier, Assistant Product Manager for Crew Served Weapons. The upgraded guns incorporate significant lethality and safety improvements over the classic M2.

milSuite: Social media power 'behind the firewall'

BY ED LOPEZ
Editor

The booming popularity of internet sites such as Facebook, Wikipedia, YouTube and various blogging sites is a clear testament to the general public's strong attraction to social media.

To provide similar features plus powerful tools such as project management, milSuite is designed to extend social media functions to the entire Department of Defense (DOD).

The key difference is that milSuite is a secure DOD site "behind the firewall" that addresses security concerns about protecting sensitive information.

Moreover, milSuite doesn't require a cumbersome registration process. Access is instant to those persons with a Common Access Card (CAC), thus making the site a quick way to share information and collaborate with co-workers.

"The Facebook generation of Soldiers is used to social media and wants to use it even then they are deployed," said Jason Bock, a contractor who presented a briefing on milSuite Sept. 15 at the Lindner Conference Center.

MilSuite is a product within the MilTech Solutions Office of the Army's Program Executive Office Command, Control and Communications-Tactical (PEO C3T), located at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.

MilTech Solutions is a Forward Operating Agency that supports the DOD's initiatives "with integrated, collaborative solutions to inspire actions across a synchronized workforce."

The milSuite site—with divisions such as milWiki, milBook, milBlog and mil-



Tube—currently has about 170,000 users and is gaining attention for its ability to function as a flexible and powerful training platform.

Dr. Gerardo Melendez, director of the Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center (ARDEC) here, recently started a blog on milBlog.

Maj. Gen. Nick Justice, commander of ARDEC's parent command—the Research, Development and Engineering Command (RDECOM)—shared a New Year's message on milTube.

The message generated more than 13,000 "views" along with real-time feedback.

The milSuite product has also been embraced by a variety of organizations:

- **Chaplains on milBook.** Members share education and training resources, reading lists, counseling tips as well as suicide prevention discussions.
- **Army doctrine on milWiki** Soldiers and leaders make real-time updates to the Army's tactics, techniques and procedures.
- **Orion on milBook** A virtual workspace that simplifies collaboration among the Army's senior leaders.
- **Ordnance School on milBook** This group is for Army Ordnance School course managers, training developers and instructors for sharing information and planning.
- **EOD course on milBook** This pri-

vate groups is for Explosive Ordnance Devices Phase 1 educators and students.

- **Navy recruiting on milWiki** Serves as a collaboration portal for Navy recruiting districts in Ohio and Jacksonville, Fla.
- **358th Medical Detachment** Lt. Col. Jacob Johnson's blog from Afghanistan on milBook keeps Soldiers informed about the unit while deployed.

Other milSuite users include the Army National Guard Education Services and the Defense Finance and Accounting Services, which has more than 900 users on milBook.

"MilSuite has really taken off as a training platform," Bock said.

The milBook features give users various options, including the ability to "lock off" certain private areas and use templates to create a quick presence on milSuite.

The "spaces" area in milBook can also be set up for different permissions to access information.

"Everyone can be the webmaster, everyone can contribute and put stuff up on the wiki," said Cmdr. Michael Hudson, commanding officer of the Navy recruiting district in Ohio.

"It's easy to be notified and easy to put information there."

Bock echoed the theme of how easy it is to get up and running on milSuite.

"You can go to milBook and start up a group yourself," he said. "You don't have

to contact a system administrator."

Among the fans of the "Army doctrine on milWiki" is Gen. Peter Chiarelli, the vice chief of staff of the Army.

"A Soldier redeployed from Afghanistan, for example, could access the ATTP for site exploitation operations, make changes and add new material based on firsthand experience in the county," Chiarelli said.

CONSIDER EXISTING PROCESSES

A key point at the recent milSuite presentation is that potential users shouldn't necessarily view the product as something entirely new or extra that they have to find reasons to use.

Rather, a potential user should ask what existing processes can be replaced or improved by learning and using the variety of tools on milSuite.

Exploring what other user communities are doing on milSuite could also generate ideas on how to customize the product for the specific needs of an organization.

Bock said that careful consideration of what information to place on milSuite can be a big factor in improving customer support.

"It's one less call to the support desk," he added.

The next major release of milSuite will be in the second quarter of the 2012 fiscal year and will feature better integration with other products such as Sharepoint.

Bock encouraged potential users of milSuite to explore the site and assess how it can be used to boost productivity and make collaboration easier.

The link is <https://www.milsuite.mil>.

HAVE YOU BEEN MISSING THE PICATINNY VOICE?

Looking for back issues? Did a co-worker recommend an article to read? The Picatinny Voice can now be downloaded in Portable Document Format (PDF) from the Picatinny Arsenal Web site at <http://www.pica.army.mil/PicatinnyPublic/index.asp>. Just click on the newspaper logo, which will take you to another page where you can click on the "Current Issues" link.

Major Machine Gun Upgrade
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Harvest Helper
Advanced Vehicle Fielded for Cavalry
Multiple Troops
PAGE 3

THE PICATINNY VOICE
September 23, 2011

Major Machine Gun Upgrade
The M240 General Purpose Machine Gun is being replaced by the M270 Advanced Machine Gun. The M270 is a more powerful and accurate machine gun that will be used by the 1st Cavalry Division. The M270 is a more powerful and accurate machine gun that will be used by the 1st Cavalry Division.

Holiday Ball
The 1st Cavalry Division held its annual Holiday Ball at the Lindner Conference Center. The ball was a great success and was attended by many Soldiers and their families. The ball was a great success and was attended by many Soldiers and their families.

Harvest Helper
The 1st Cavalry Division is using the M270 Advanced Vehicle to help with harvest operations. The M270 is a more powerful and accurate machine gun that will be used by the 1st Cavalry Division.

TRAINING COMBAT CANINES
PAGE 4

Teams' Tournament
10 Troops Compete
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REMEMBER OUR VETERANS
PAGE 6

THE PICATINNY VOICE
September 23, 2011

Enhanced Performance
Round gets high marks
Greater consistency of the M270A1 is cited by Soldiers in feedback from the 1st Cavalry Division.

Confluence of events helps Picatinny civilian leave life-threatening disease
A rare combination of events helped a civilian leave a life-threatening disease. The combination of events helped a civilian leave a life-threatening disease.

Local veterans replace flags
The 1st Cavalry Division held a ceremony to replace flags. The ceremony was a great success and was attended by many Soldiers and their families.

LESSONS IN ACQUISITION
The Army is learning from its mistakes. The Army is learning from its mistakes.

ARMED FORCES ALL JAPANESE
PAGE 7

Solar Powered
PAGE 8

THE PICATINNY VOICE
September 23, 2011

Tree Memorial continues tradition
The 1st Cavalry Division is continuing its tradition of planting trees. The tradition of planting trees is a great success and was attended by many Soldiers and their families.

Fallen New Jerseyans honored
The 1st Cavalry Division is honoring fallen New Jerseyans. The honoring of fallen New Jerseyans is a great success and was attended by many Soldiers and their families.

Costly fuel, weak housing market squeeze road-warrior Picatinny technician
A Picatinny technician is facing challenges due to costly fuel and a weak housing market. The challenges are a great success and was attended by many Soldiers and their families.

FORT MONMOUTH BRAC CLOSING



On Sept. 13, 2011, a deactivation ceremony was held at Fort Monmouth in which Army officials cased the Fort Monmouth colors. Two days later, the final retreat was held and the American flag was lowered for the last time. The fort's closing culminated the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) implementation for the installation.

At right, Maj. Gen. Randolph P. Strong, Commander of the Communications Electronics Command (CECOM), holds the final retreat flag. CECOM was based at Fort Monmouth before it was transferred to Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md. Other organizations at Fort Monmouth also moved.



Fort Monmouth's rich history of began in 1917, when a Signal Corps training facility and radio research and development laboratory were established at the site. Originally named "Camp Little Silver," it was granted permanent status in August 1925 and renamed "Fort Monmouth" in honor of the Soldiers of the American Revolution who died in the Battle of Monmouth in Monmouth County.

Over the years, Fort Monmouth was known for its many technological innovations. As the BRAC closure approached, many former Fort Monmouth employees found employment at Picatinny Arsenal.



The new 17- and 15-story office towers at the Department of Defense Office Complex project at the Mark Center in Alexandria, Va., will consolidate about 6,400 employees from various Department of Defense and related agencies throughout the National Capital Region.

BRAC 2005: 'Colossus of a program' completed on time in Northeast

Army News Service

NEW YORK, N.Y. -- Sept. 15 marked the end of the Department of Defense's six-year Base Realignment and Closure 2005 program.

Without question, it was the largest infrastructure investment program the U.S. Army has seen since World War II, with roughly \$18 billion in military construction projects executed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

One office, the Army Corps' North Atlantic Division, oversaw about half of this massive military construction program—roughly \$7.5 billion in five years. And it was executed on time and on budget.

"This is a remarkable military construction success story," said Col. Christopher Larsen, the division's acting commander.

"But it's really about our people. If anyone is to thank for turning this massive, time-bound program from concept to reality, it's our engineers, project managers, and contractors."

The amount of work the division executed was larger than the previous four Base Realignment and Closure, or BRAC, rounds combined, with the majority of that taking place on bases in Maryland and Virginia. About \$6.5 billion was invested in infrastructure within nine miles of I-95.

Virginia alone saw the tallest building the Army Corps has ever constructed—the 17-story DOD Complex at the Mark Center in Alexandria—and the largest DOD building constructed since the Pentagon.

The 2.4 million square-foot National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency's Campus East facility in Springfield, Va., is also home to the 1.3 million square-foot Fort Belvoir Community Hospital, which used a concept called evidence-based design to improve patient outcomes.

"The amount of engineering time and knowledge that went into planning, designing, and constructing these BRAC projects is truly phenomenal," said Larsen.

Five installations in the northeast saw the majority of new construction—Fort Belvoir, Va., Fort Lee, Va., Fort Meade, Md., Fort Detrick, Md., and Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Md.

It was so much work in such a small area and in such a tight schedule, Larsen said, that a whole new work structure had to be set up to accommodate it.

"It was just too much for a district or two to

handle," said Larsen. "So we had to create some work sharing agreements within our division to get the work done. And we accomplished that, which I think speaks to our flexibility, our capability, and our customer focus."

Although the BRAC 2005 program was massive, Bob Mawhinney, the division's director of military programs, cautions people from thinking about BRAC in terms of size.

"Yes, BRAC is a colossus of a program that may never be matched in size or speed," said Mawhinney. "But its legacy should be the energy-efficiency standards that have been set."

The DOD's Mark Center complex meets the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED Gold standard and uses 40 percent less water and 30 percent less energy than its legacy facilities.

NGA's new building is the largest LEED Silver-certified government building in the world. And the Fort Belvoir Community Hospital consumes 30 percent less energy than the medical facilities it replaces.

"Many people may not associate the U.S. Army with energy efficiency," said Mawhinney. "I hope that changes as people learn about what the Corps of Engineers and our partners were able to do."

BRAC 2005 was also advantageous to the Army through the construction of purpose-built facilities that allow the Army to modernize from division-centric to modular brigades, said Katherine Hammack, the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations, Energy and the Environment.

These infrastructure improvements will result in cost savings, she added, by having more energy-efficient buildings, more co-located forces, and a reduced 'boot print.'

"BRAC has produced tremendous economic benefits to our Army and allows us to use taxpayer dollars more efficiently," said Hammack.

"In addition to improving efficiencies, BRAC has also strengthened our enduring installations and their surrounding communities, thereby enhancing the well-being of our Soldiers, their families and the civilian workforce."

The U.S. Army was responsible for 47 percent of the entire DOD BRAC 2005 program. Northeast installation closures included Fort Monmouth, N.J., Fort Monroe, Va., and the Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C.

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Gen. Odierno assumes post as new Army chief of staff

Army News Service

WASHINGTON -- After assuming responsibility as the Army's new chief of staff, Gen. Raymond T. Odierno discussed challenges ranging from transnational terrorism to "uncertainty of the Arab Spring," to looming resource cuts, and he called for caution to avoid a hollowing of the force.

Before an auditorium full of members of Congress, current and former leaders in the Department of Defense, Soldiers, and family members at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, Va., Odierno took an oath as the 38th chief of staff of the Army.

"I pledge I will work with all the Joint Chiefs and our service secretaries and the secretary of Defense, as we face these very difficult challenges," Odierno said. "But I do have a word of caution. We must avoid our historical pattern of drawing down too fast and getting too small. Especially since our record of predicting the future is frankly not a very good one. So as we make difficult resource decisions we must be thoughtful and understanding of the risk we incur to the future security of this great nation."

Odierno said the Army must continue to provide combatant commanders a trained and ready Army to ensure the United States prevails in both Iraq and Afghanistan. In order to do that, he said, the nation must sustain the all-volunteer Army and continue to develop leaders and commitment to the profession of arms.

"Today is like no other in our history," said the new chief of staff. "It is a time of uncertainty and historic change. We face a multitude of security challenges such as transnational and regional terrorism [from] places like Yemen and Somalia, North Africa, and Pakistan's federally-administered tribal areas.

"We have the uncertainty of the Arab Spring," he said about the revolts in North Africa and

elsewhere. He warned of the proliferation of nuclear weapons, and the challenges of rising national powers. "All of that is underpinned by our own fiscal challenges," he said.

"The strength of our nation is our Army," Odierno said. "The strength of our Army is our Soldiers. The strength of our Soldiers is our families. This is what makes us 'Army strong.'"

Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta praised Odierno, and commented on his ascent to the top military position in the Army.

"He brings a wealth of combat experience, with three long deployments to Iraq that totaled over 50 months," Panetta said. "After leading the 4th Infantry Division in the early years of that war, he later returned, as General Petraeus' right-hand man."

Panetta said Odierno was the operational architect of the troop surge that "turned the tide" in Iraq. The general was commander of Multi-National Corp-Iraq during those days and later became the overall commander in Iraq, from 2008 to 2010.

"A very crucial time when our military was trying to make sure we lock in the gains that were made with the surge," Panetta said.

After having sworn in his new chief of staff, Secretary of the Army John McHugh commented on the "transfer of responsibility" of the Army—the name of the process is different for the chief of staff than it is for a command position—saying it is a reflection of American democracy.

"The transfer of authority from one CSA to another [takes place] not with weapons, not with force—as we have seen in so many places across the planet in recent days—but with honor and tradition and even reverence," McHugh said.

"It's a credit to our democratic principles and a credit to our nation, and to the military's respect of civilian authority. But most

importantly, it's a credit to the selfless men and women of profound character and conviction who take up arms and don uniforms in defense of our nation, our liberties and our freedom."

McHugh, a former congressman from New York, said Odierno brings to his position as the new chief of staff "impeccable credentials as a Soldier, [and] as a leader," and noted that the general had commanded units at every level during a career that has spanned more than 35 years.

"As a testament to his leadership and acumen on the battlefield, General Odierno is only the second officer since Vietnam

to command up to division, corps and Army level during the same conflict," McHugh said.

The secretary said it was during Odierno's time in Iraq the two first met. Over a period of 10 years, McHugh said, he's visited Iraq about 14 times.

"As I recall, Ray was there for just about every one of them," McHugh said. "Every time I returned to Washington thereafter, I felt better about our presence in that theater, better about our mission and better about the leadership in that nation, because of Ray Odierno."

Odierno himself thanked many in the audience, including

the members of the 1974 graduating class of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point—his own classmates.

The outgoing chief of staff, Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, who had just passed responsibility for the Army to his counterpart, had these words for the Army's 38th chief of staff and for his wife, Linda.

"I wish I could've gotten a few more things ironed out before you Ray, but you two know more about service and sacrifice than just out anybody we now," he said.

"And you're going to be a terrific 38th chief."



New Jersey Blood Services Honors Picatinny "Long-Time LifeSavers"

SHEILA FREDENBERG

Picatinny Blood Driver Coordinator

Did you know that "in one day, the blood travels a total of 12,000 miles"?

This is just one of the surprising facts Pat Bonnier, New Jersey Blood Services Account Manager, offered the group of "Picatinny Lifetime Donors" at a recent breakfast meeting.

Picatinny blood donors who have donated more than 50 times at Picatinny were treated to breakfast and presented with a lifesaver certificate.

Raymond Hom stands proud as the highest donor with 186 donations.

Garrison Commander Lt. Col. Herb Koehler attended and personally thanked everyone and expressed his personal gratitude to all who donated the "gift of life" at the Picatinny Arsenal Blood Drives.

Many in attendance also serve as building blood captains. They put up posters to promote upcoming blood drives, serve as a mentor to new donors and assist in the recruitment of new donors.

Every donor at the Aug. 26 and Sept. 2 blood drives received a 9/11, 10th Anniversary Pin to commemorate the many blood donations given during that tragic time in our history. Blood drives are held quarterly at Picatinny.

The Aug 26 drive, just prior to Hurricane Irene, produced 122 units of blood. The drive held Sept. 2 resulted in 210 units.

If you wish to donate blood at the Picatinny Blood Drives, you may visit the on-line scheduler at www.tinyurl.com/picatinnyblooddrive

Or, you can contact Sheila Fredenberg, PICA Blood Drive Coordinator at extension X4180 or sheila.fredenberg@us.army.mil

Picatinny, ARDEC social media sites inform public of important contributions

Social media sites leverage the power of the Internet to inform the public and members of the Picatinny Arsenal community about activities at the home of the United States Army in northern New Jersey.

Please take time to visit and share the addresses of these various informative sites:

www.facebook.com/PicatinnyArsenal

www.twitter.com/Picatinny_NJ

www.flickr.com/PicatinnyArsenal

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Aging, obscure towers reflect Picatinny heritage

BY ERIC KOWAL

Picatinny Public Affairs

Most people have seen the Precision Armaments Technology Laboratory Tower looming over the trees here on the Arsenal.

It can be seen from Route 15 on any given day and if you ever get a chance to trek to the top you might even see the New York City skyline.

The tower's focus is on the measurement and evaluation of how sensors and sensor systems detect targets at ground level and various altitudes in adverse weather.

But two other towers on the installation often attract the attention of visitors and new employees.

"What is that tower there?" a new employee may ask.

Near the access control point known as the Escape Trail, a small paved road leads to an old fire tower, often called the "Green Pond" tower.

It was inducted into the National Historic Lookout Register in 1994 and has been a Picatinny landmark ever since.

That same year the tower received a facelift, although you would not be able to tell by looking at it today.

The stairs are rusty and creaky. The windows at the top are shattered. Bird droppings cover the area, which is inhabited by wild turkeys. Vegetation has completely overgrown due to inactivity in the area.

WHAT IS IT USED FOR?

The 60-foot tower dates back to 1942 and was used to watch for fires. At the height of the second World War, the tall structure was also used to watch for enemy attacks.

It was manned until the late 1950s and

then later decommissioned. Years later, it functioned as a radio tower.

At the time of renovation, the New Jersey State Fire Service was able to assign personnel to the tower during periods of high fire danger.

It is the only fire tower in the state with a 360-degree exterior catwalk that runs along the outside of the cab at the top of the tower.

An article written in the Picatinny Voice around the time of the renovations recounts that a person could see the Twin World Trade Center Towers when standing atop the Green Pond tower.

The destruction of those towers on Sept. 11, 2001 contributed to the diminished use of the Green Pond tower.

Since 9/11, Picatinny as well as many other military installations have become "closed posts," meaning they are generally not open to the public.

Because the volunteers from the fire service no longer had open access to the Arsenal, the tower sort of sat idle without any real ongoing use.

A new tower in Andover was erected and the state fire service has been using it ever since.

RED TOWER OVERLOOKING BUCKY'S

This tower, made primarily of wood, dates back to about 1965 and can easily be seen from Bucky's restaurant on the south shore of Picatinny Lake.

It is often called the bird tower because bird watchers have been known to visit the area, which looks upon "downtown" Picatinny.

It, too, served as a fire-watch tower, but was also reportedly used to conduct tests on acoustics and sensors.

The tower sits atop Picatinny peak,



Photos by Todd Mozes

The red fire tower on top of Picatinny Peak overlooks "downtown" Picatinny and can easily be seen from Bucky's restaurant.



The "Green Pond" tower has been limited in use and thus has evidence of rust. In the distance is the Precision Armaments Laboratory.

above Picatinny Lake. The word Picatinny is believed to be of Native American origin and translates into "rugged cliff by water."

Though neither the Green Pond or

red tower are now used for their earlier purposes, they serve as historic markers at the Arsenal.

They also offer breathtaking views of the surrounding area.

Picatinny Energy Fair set for Oct. 27 at 'Choices'

Picatinny Energy Office

On Oct. 27, Picatinny will hold its annual Energy Fair to celebrate October as National Energy Awareness Month.

The fair will feature tabletop displays in "Choices" during lunchtime on the subject of energy efficiency in the home as well as what you can do to save energy at Picatinny.

Handouts will be available for home-energy efficiency. Drawing will be held for energy efficient prizes such as programmable thermostats, home

insulating kits and more.

Solar panels will be on display, and experts can explain the New Jersey incentive programs for solar electricity.

Experts will also be available to explain the New Jersey Clean Energy Program incentives for energy efficiency. These incentives are related to heating, air-conditioning, lighting and more. Energy efficient lamps and fixtures will be available for sale at a reasonable price. These items are subsidized to promote energy efficiency in the home.

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